

jails before Independence. Ex-INA personnel are also eligible for pension if the imprisonment/detention suffered by them was outside India for six months or more. In case of women and SC/ST freedom fighters, the minimum period of actual imprisonment for eligibility of pension is three months.

- (B) A person who remained underground for six months or more provided he was:—
- (i) a proclaimed offender;
 - (ii) one on whom an award for arrest/head was announced; or
 - (iii) one whose detention order was issued but not served.
- (C) A person who was interned in his home or externed from his district under the orders of the competent authority for six months or more.
- (D) A person whose property was confiscated or attached and sold due to participation in the National Freedom Struggle.
- (E) A person who was permanently incapacitated during firing or lathi charge.
- (F) A person who lost his Government job (including job in a local body) for participation in the National Freedom Struggle.
- (G) A person who was awarded the punishment of 10 strokes of caning/flogging/whipping.

(C) Only 52 fresh cases are pending at present. State-wise details are as under:—

Andhra Pradesh	38
Uttar Pradesh	09
Bihar	05

There are also 2,819 review applications pending in respect of cases which have been rejected once or more times in the past.

School in Chemical Zone

3183. SHRI D.S. AHIRE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Recognised school puts classrooms, 1200 children in Thane Chemical Zone" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated February 16,1999;

(b) if so, whether the Government have asked for the reasons from Maharashtra Government for according permission to the said school in the Chemical Zone which is threatening the lives of children;

(c) if so, the response of the State Government thereto; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government fully appreciate the concern expressed in the said news-paper. However, Central Government do not exercise control over the specific school cited in the news item. All these issues primarily fall within the jurisdiction of the State Government and the Department of Education, Government of Maharashtra has been apprised of the concern expressed in the news item and also by the Honourable Member through this Question.

[Translation]

VIP Security

3184. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:
SHRI TATHAGAT SATPATHY:
SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to withdraw security cover from VIPs and VVIPs;

(b) if so, the norms prescribed for withdrawal of any security cover from VIPs and VVIPs;

(c) the details of review made thereon during the last three years particularly on financial implication;

(d) the annual expenditure incurred by the Government during the last three years, category-wise, year-wise; and

(e) the criteria laid down for providing the security coverage to VIPs?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The need for security and scale of security arrangements are reviewed periodically based on threat perception in each case and necessary changes in the security are made as warranted. This is a continuing process.

(c) and (d) The position about reviews undertaken during the year and expenditure incurred for the year by Delhi Police on VIPs and VVIPs security in the last three years is as follows:—

Year	Protectees		Annual Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)
	Before Review	After Review	
1996-97	534	381	Rs. 34.23
1997-98	472	355	Rs. 40.68
1998-99 (Upto 28.2.99)	386	295	Rs. 28.83

(e) Security is provided to individuals on the basis of the level of threat mainly from militants/terrorists as per the assessment of the security agencies.

Pending Cases in Courts

3185. SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land under litigation as on February 28, 1999 which was declared surplus under the various provisions of the Land Ceiling Act, State-wise; and

(b) the guidelines issued to the States for the disposal of the cases pending with the courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI

BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) As per latest information received from the States/UTs since inception of the programme of implementation of Land Ceiling Laws, an area of 9.59 lakh acres is involved in litigation which is pending in various Courts for adjudication, State-wise information is enclosed in the Statement.

(b) The issue relating to various land reform programmes has been taken up for review at various fora including Revenue Ministers' Conferences/Chief Ministers' Conferences etc. The recently concluded Revenue Ministers' Conference held on 17th September, 1998 had reviewed various land reform programmes including implementation of Land Ceiling Laws and recommended for setting up Special Benches in their respective High Courts and Land Tribunals under Article 323-B of the Constitution for hearing and expeditious disposal of land ceiling cases pending in the respective High Courts. It was also recommended that the land already vested with the State Government and taken possession of land but subsequently got involved in litigation, be distributed among the landless persons on short term licence/lease basis, subject to automatic cancellation of such licenses/leases as soon as such lands are divested by the orders of the Court/final Appellate Court so that these are effectively utilised by the landless rural people unless the court has given any direction to the country.

The recommendations of the Conference of Revenue Ministers have been forwarded to the States/UTs for necessary action at their end.

Statement

(Area in Acres)

Sl.No.	States/UTs.	Total Area in Courts
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	141952
2.	Assam	38461
3.	Bihar	86487
4.	Gujarat	69831
5.	Haryana	5769